



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro\*  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaton  
Kimberly N. Reddick  
Theodore A. Wood

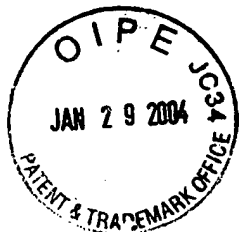
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn Prengaman  
Jane Shershenovich\*  
Lawrence J. Carroll\*  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein\*  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller\*  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
John J. Figueroa  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Tiera S. Coston\*  
Aric W. Ledford\*

Michael D. Specht  
Jessica L. Parezo  
Timothy A. Doyle\*  
Cynthia M. Bouchez  
Nicole D. Dretar\*  
Ted J. Ebersole  
  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longsworth  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Mary B. Tung  
Katrina Y. Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman

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Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford  
Eric D. Hayes  
Michelle K. Holoubek  
Robert H. DeSelms  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukerjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
  
**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie  
  
\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

January 29, 2004



**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8678

Art Unit 1642

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/462,625; 35 U.S.C. § 371 Date: July 28, 2000  
For: **Tumor Growth Inhibition- and Apoptosis-Associated Genes and  
Polypeptides and Methods of Use Thereof**  
Inventors: Georgiev *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0652.1630001/EKS/JUK

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Statement of Substance of Examiner Interview; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
January 29, 2004  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Judith U. Kim  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 40,679

EKS/JUK/JCI/shr  
Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Georgiev *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/462,625

35 U.S.C. § Date: July 28, 2000

For: **Tumor Growth Inhibition- and  
Apoptosis-Associated Genes and  
Polypeptides and Methods of Use Thereof**

Confirmation No.: 5330

Art Unit: 1642

Examiner: Stephen L. Rawlings

Atty Docket: 0652.1630001/EKS/JUK

**Statement of Substance of Examiner Interview**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Examiner Interview for the captioned application was conducted on December 29, 2003. Pursuant to the Interview Summary mailed December 29, 2003, which directs Applicants to file a statement of the substance of the interview within one month from the date of the interview if a reply to the last Office Action has already been filed, Applicants submit herewith such a statement.

Applicants and Applicants' representative wish to thank Examiner Stephen Rawlings for the telephonic interview with the undersigned Applicants' representative on December 29, 2003.

The Examiner indicated that the Amendment filed on December 9, 2003, obviated all previously outstanding issues if Applicants' terminal disclaimer is proper. The Examiner indicated that the terminal disclosure should properly disclaim the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted in the captioned application which would extend beyond

the expiration date of the full statutory term, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,172,211B1.

During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the finality of the Office Action mailed September 24, 2003, has been withdrawn.

However, the Examiner indicated that claims 61 and 80 may be rejected under new grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly being drawn to nonstatutory material or subject matter not fully enabled by Applicants' disclosure. The Examiner indicated that the new grounds of rejection would be rendered moot if Applicants' representative were to authorize an Examiner's Amendment, inserting the term "isolated" before "transfected host cell" in claims 61 and 80.

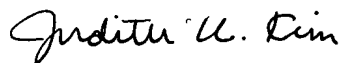
Applicants' representative agreed to consult with the Applicants to determine whether to grant the authorization for the Examiner's Amendment.

The Examiner indicated that authorization of the proposed Examiner's Amendment and a proper terminal disclaimer would place this application in condition for allowance.

In the meantime, if the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Judith U. Kim  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 40,679

Date: January 29, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600